

AAUW COASTLINES

Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch, November/December 2023

<http://palosverdes-ca.aauw.net> | <http://www.facebook.com/groups/aauwpvp>



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Lucy Hayes



Francis Cleveland



Helen Taft



Edith Wilson

November Branch Meeting

Readers Theater

by Cecilia Rogers

The Select Sorority, Act II
Tuesday, November 14, 2 pm
Hesse Park, the Fireside Room

Lots to learn about the First Ladies:

- Lucy Hayes the First Lady to attend college
- Frances Cleveland the only First Lady to be married in the White House
- Helen Taft responsible for planting the cherry trees in D C
- Edith Wilson who may have been the first female President

Please remember to bring up to three books for our Book Exchange.
You may take home as many as you like.

Will you win the door prize?

Join us for a

HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR



Friday, December 1,
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
At Joanie Gale's Home
2405 Via Sobrante, PVE



Let's use this as an opportunity to invite potential members
Spouses welcome

Contributions of food and wine will be appreciated.

Please contact Libby Bergen for more details and to RSVP:
bergenlibby@gmail.com

2023 California Legislative Session Round-Up: AAUW California's Priority Legislation

September 14, 2023 was a tense day in Sacramento: the last day for each House to pass bills that could be sent on to the governor. After at least nine months of writing, researching, amending, and lobbying, the legislative session drew to a close.

We are happy to report that our priority bills did pretty well in this cycle!

11 bills signed into law.

12 bills sent to the Governor's desk.

16 bills transitioned to two year bills – we'll see them again next year.

A-Level Bills

Our three A-level bills this year were AB 1394, AB 549, and SB680. AAUW California was also a co-sponsor on AB1394, AB 549 and SB 680.

AB 1394. Signed into law! Authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, and co-sponsored by AAUW California, this bill seeks to help child sex abuse survivors remove their images from social media platforms.

AB 549. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Assemblymember Lori Wilson. This bill would require all state agencies to conduct an evaluation of their own departments to ensure that the state does not discriminate against women through the allocation of funding and the delivery of services.

SB 680. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Senator Nancy Skinner, this bill prohibits a social media platform from using a design, algorithm, or feature that the platform knows, or should have known, causes child users to experience addiction to the social media platform.

B-Level Bills

Our four B-level bills this year were AB 524, AB 1071, AB 1078, and SB 36. AAUW California added AB 1078 later in the session at the request of the School Board Project Subcommittee, as it deals with preserving historically accurate and representative curricula for public schools in California. We are excited to report that two of our B-level bills have been signed into law: AB 1071 and AB 1078. AB 524 is still sitting on the Governor's desk and SB 36 has been transformed into a 2-year bill.

AB 524. Vetoed. Authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, this bill would prohibit discrimination against employees based on their status as a family caregiver.

AB 1071. Signed into Law! Authored by Assemblymember Joshua Hoover, this bill would authorize and encourage school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to provide teen dating violence prevention (TDV) education to all pupils in grades 7-12 and make TDV resources available on its website.

Continued on pg. 4



November Birthdays

Kathleen Fitzgerald 11/05
 Kathy Ford 11/05
 Berta Bilezikjian 11/14
 Eileen Edelson 11/28
 Marilyn Morton 11/28

December Birthdays

Barbara Schach 12/03
 Jann Segal 12/03
 Carol Sugimori 12/06
 Margery Norris 12/09
 Marlene Naraghi 12/14
 Diane Hembacher 12/21
 Dale Richards 12/23
 Shera Dolmatz 12/23
 Linda Ann Bonini 12/27
 Joanie Gale 12/28

If we missed your birthday or a correction needs to be made, please inform Nancy Rayner at nrayner777@gmail.com.



Say goodbye to October, say hello to November. Let's make Bingo an unbe-leaf-able evening to remember!

Join us on
 Friday, November 3, 2023
 7:00 PM

**RSVP to Jane Harris at
 compprin@hotmail.com**

A Bingo card and ZOOM link will be sent to you.



Save the Date
 Branch Meeting
 Tuesday, January 9, 2024- 2:00 p.m.
 Hesse Park

Come hear Don Mottinger speak on "Sex and the Economy". You won't need the high heels, tight tops, short skirts and provocative clothing usually associated with this topic! Don will be addressing world-wide population trends, the short and long term economic impacts, and more. It's fascinating, timely and flat shoes are way more comfortable!

Cont'd from page 2

AB 1078. Signed into Law! Authored by Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson, this bill expands the diversity of the social science curriculum, requiring instruction in social sciences to include a study of the role and contributions of people of all genders, Latino Americans, LGBTQ+ Americans, and other ethnic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic status groups. If the school district has not provided sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, their local control funding formula allocation will be reduced.

SB 36. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Senator Nancy Skinner, this bill provides protections and support for any person fleeing prosecution, conviction, or sentence from another state for seeking abortion, contraception, reproductive care, or seeking gender-affirming care in California. It also provides protections for any person assisting that person.

C-Level Bills

We had thirty-one C-level bills this year. Eight of our C-level bills were signed into law. Ten are pending, and thirteen are now 2-year bills. For additional details about the bills that we supported at the C-level, or bills at any level, as well as access to the most current information, check out our bill tracker under Public Policy on the AAUW CA website, aauw-ca.org.

By Amy Hom & Missy Maceyko, Co-Chairs, CA State Public Policy Committee



October 9 was Indigenous People's Day, a day to honor Native Americans and share an accurate history of our nation. It is important to create space to amplify Native American voices and to acknowledge that the land we occupy was first the home of Indigenous people. Between 1776 and 1887, the U.S. seized more than 1.5 billion acres from Native Americans by treaty and executive order.

Today, there are approximately 6.79 million Native Americans, which is about 2.09% of the U.S. population. There are 574 federally recognized tribes in the U.S.

OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING

by Joanie Gale

Congratulations to Margery Norris, who won the door prize (a plant and M&Ms) at the Oct. Branch meeting! She wasn't the only winner...local libraries will receive the books left over from the Book Exchange! Most members brought books and many walked away with new reads.

It was a productive meeting....Dale Richards was voted in as a Co-Treasurer with Leann Roque, the budget was approved, and we heard updates on TechTrek from Kaaren Lee, TTAG from Denise Devenuto and NCCWSL C/U from Diane Hembocher.

Did you know...we have the most interesting people in AAUW? We played Member Trivia, and found out our members include:

A former TWA Air hostess

One who piloted the Goodyear blimp

One who summited Yosemite Falls

One who kissed a Monkee!

And more!

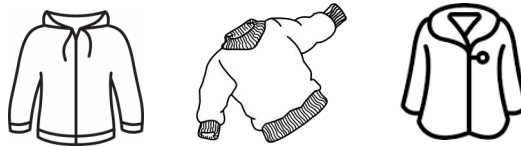
The next branch meeting will be Nov. 14 at 2 pm at Hesse Park. Come for the interesting people, the book exchange, the door prize, and the entertainment! The meeting will be brief, the Program will be "The Select Sorority, Act II. It is a new presentation of four First Ladies, filled with history, romance and flair! Guests are welcome!

WHW Coat Drive

We hope you will join our Women Helping Women Coat Drive in November to help women in need from the communities of San Pedro, Harbor City and Wilmington. We will be donating the coats to the Toberrman Neighborhood Center as it continues its long history of meeting the needs of those who live in challenging conditions. I am sure if you go through your closets you will find several coats, jackets, sweatshirts, pullovers or hoodies which will keep women warm as the winter months approach. Shera Dolmatz is organizing the drive so you may direct any questions to her. During the month of November your gently used coats can be dropped off at the following locations:

Shera Dolmatz
29205 Oceanridge Drive
Rancho Palos Verdes

Jane Harris
924 Knob Hill Ave.
Redondo Beach



You might also choose to bring your donations to the home of Joanie Gale who is hosting the Winter Social on December 1st.

Joanie Gale
2405 Via Sobrante
Palos Verdes Estates

Thanks in advance for supporting women in need.

SCHOOL BOARD PROJECT MEETING REPORT

On Oct. 7, Kathi Harper, Chair of the CA-AAUW School Board Project, spoke with the branch via Zoom. Nancy Mahr introduced Kathi, they share an interest in Public Policy and activism. Kathi recognized Nancy as her mentor in the beginning of her AAUW service at the state level.

The title of the presentation, Book Banning and Curriculum Censorship in CA – AAUW to the Rescue kicked off a discussion summarizing the current climate and AAUW's efforts. AAUW promotes academic freedom, protection from censorship, bias-free education, and access to curriculum with historically accurate information.

Two highlights - In Florida, over 350 books have been banned; in Texas it is no longer required to include MLK Jr. and the Suffrage movement in curriculum.

The movement is motivated in part by Moms 4 Liberty, a grassroots effort started in Florida to combat mask mandates and school closings during the pandemic. They have evolved into loading up school boards to support their restrictive positions. Proposed legislation they support would make it legal to harass school board members and have sensitivity training for teachers on LGBTQ issues. While these issues are often thought to be limited to red states, there have been demonstrations at school board meetings in Glendale and Temecula. Moms 4 Liberty has started a branch in Northern California.

In response, Gov. Newsom and the State Superintendent of Education issued a joint statement:

1. restricting the removal of books,
2. promoting education and experience to various world views
3. stating that education requires representation and unbiased curriculum, with freedom of speech for students.

AB1078 has been signed by Gov. Newsom which codifies the above. It also puts teeth into it; school boards which do not comply can have state funding reduced.

It is important to stay engaged...there will be lawsuits and ongoing issues in the future. While the law focuses on educational issues, it does not address LGBTQ issues. CA-AAUW did a survey of branches, and with over 50% of the branches responding, there is widespread concern and willingness to work on these issues.

The School Board Project is organizing branches. There are liaisons for each area in California. There are over 1000 school boards in California; education takes 40% of the state budget. While staying within AAUW legal and monetary guidelines, they encourage members to identify potential school board members, support candidates, attend school board meetings and speak up. A toolkit is available on the AAUW website.

At the close of the meeting, it was noted that we are lucky to have a PVUSD school board member among our membership. It is important to be aware of any effort to promote restrictive policies. While many folks don't follow school board activities after their children have left the PVUSD system, all of us need to stay informed on current activities.

Looking forward by Joanie Gale.....

Hallowe'en is around the corner, Thanksgiving will be here before we know it, the winter celebrations are flooding the stores...and AAUW is the place to be!

We had two branch activities in October, one serious and one delicious! Read on to hear about The School Board Project, An AAUW program to address book banning in schools. The Friday the 13th Tasting Event, featuring apples, cider, donuts and more, was great fun!

Looking forward to November, Reader's Theater presentation of The Select Sorority, Act 2 will be the featured entertainment at the November Branch meeting!

We will be meeting on November 14, 2023 at 2 pm in the Fireside Room at Hesse Park. Once again, bring up to three books and take home as many as you like at our Book Exchange! There will be a door prize and homemade treats!

Also, there will be a Zoom Bingo in the beginning of November!

And to wrap up the year, the Holiday Happy Hour will be on Dec. 1 from 4-6. Friends and spouses are welcome! Contributions of food and wine will be appreciated, please contact Libby Bergen for more details and RSVP.

Membership Update – submitted by Libby Bergen and Jane Harris

A big **thank you** to all our members who renewed their membership for the 2023-2024 year! We currently have 97 members who support the AAUW mission of gender equity and economic security. It was a good year for adding new members. We are pleased to welcome the following **new members** to the Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch:

1. Diane Bear
2. Mary Ann Donahue
3. Delia Gasco
4. Irene Gasco
5. Nourit Korzennik
6. Rosalie Laufer Abelson
7. Marilou Lieman
8. Dorothy Medrano
9. Marlene Naraghi
- 10 Heather White
11. Jill Wussler

Please remember that your membership expiration date is a year from the month and day you joined AAUW. You should be receiving a reminder from National a few months before the expiration. If you miss the date, Libby and I will send you a very “friendly” reminder!! Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.



CELEBRATE TECH TREK

by Kaaren Lee

Celebrate Tech Trek 2023 was a great success! We were prepared for all 71 guests with festive sunflower décor and greeters passing out lemonade. Before the program began, the guests mingled with the members, watched the AAUW PVP TT video and read the girls thank you notes that were posted around the room. The girls introduced themselves in 2 panels and discussed things such as learning about blood splatter analysis (forensics), dissecting organs (anatomy), and field trips including whale watching. The most surprising finding was that almost all the girls found they survived without their cell phones and didn't have significant homesickness. A few said they wished they could stay longer. One of the girls invited some 7th graders who are interested in participating next year. Two lovely and poised TTAG girls, Sarah Solares and Richa Thakre, spoke about the alumni program.

Our own Sara Deen sponsored a dessert buffet by local baking genius Mai Osman. The desserts were sophisticated and elegant, rivalling anything you might have at the finest restaurants. The Tech Trek Committee gives her the highest recommendation if you are looking for a dessert caterer.

Thank you for your support,

The Tech Trek Committee

Memo Treats by Mai Osman

Maiozman1982@gmail.com

(424) 200-3249

Enjoy this video featuring some of our 2023 campers!

Desktop: right click and then click on Open Hyperlink <https://youtu.be/mL9misbp-Ao>



Kaaren Lee addresses campers



Students share camp experience



Mai Osman desserts



Attendees



Sarah from TTAG



Campers received gift bags

Thank you Denise DeVenuto and anonymous photographers for taking pictures.



PVP AAUW HALLOWEEN PARTY

cider , donut , apple, costume judging and a baking demonstration



Fran, Joanie and Shera made it happen.



The Winners
Cider-Shera's recipe with red hots
Donuts-Randy's
Apples-Sweet Tango



Shera showed how to make spider rolls.



Scariest Eunice



Silliest Lynn



Most Original Kaaren



Best Fascinator Margery



Attendees enjoying the party

Thank you to picture takers Fran Brown, Joanie Gale, Margery Norris and Myrna Plost

STORYWORTH: What memorable experience have you had at a play or concert?

Posted August 29th, 2021.

Hello, my friends,

I imagined, last evening, that each of you was with Jen and me as we attended only the second performance since the San Francisco Opera House has re-opened. So, let's go to the opera! It's TOSCA!

We drive the 15 minutes from home and park in Jen's reserved place, in the lot between Opera House and War Memorial. Across the street, City Hall looks beautiful and the elegant grass lawn resembles a doggie park.

We enter the side doors of the building, wearing our best face masks, having shown our I.D.'s and proof of vaccination against COVID.

It's just thrilling to be in this high-ceilinged lobby, with its glorious gold leaf and polished brass. And it's great-looking audience. Up a few stairs with my cane, and then down a central aisle to Row N on the aisle. We sit in one of the 3000 new seats, the result of Jen's 10 year seating project. A bariatric seat is pointed out and one with a side that flips for wheelchair transfer.

We enjoy fabulous people-watching as our fellow audience members arrive, then the lights dim, a voice welcomes us back, and the brand new S.F. Opera Orchestra Director comes out. She is a lovely young woman of Asian descent. The crowd erupts with applause and cheers and the music begins.

We, and who knows how many others, know the names of none of the performers, since there are no printed programs. Fortunately, the super titles are as clear as ever above the stage, so we understand the story as it unfolds and the voices soar. Heroes and villains, Napoleonic soldiers, true love and tragedy. You know, Opera! Puccini composed some of the best and most melodic.

The first intermission is 25 minutes long, and we go down to the dining room, where we meet another couple, for champagne, cookies, candy and strawberries in chocolate at our own small table.

Two more fabulous acts, then the end, a loudly grateful crowd and several curtain calls. Out the door, with another awesome view of the hall that's at the City's center.

What a perfect evening, returning to a live performance of opera, which has everything: singing, acting, lighting, exotic settings, choruses, duets, solos..."All changes. Art alone endures".



Margery Norris, August 2021



INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

Space constraints or other factors may result in need for a waitlist for new members.



ART APPRECIATION

Leader: Nancy Rayner
Nrayner777@gmail.com
1st Wednesday 2pm

November 1 – *Development of Painting - Tempera & Oils*
 December 6 – *Modern Painting – Acrylics & Assemblages*

COOKS' CORNER

Leader: Denise DeVenuto
Dendev88@gmail.com
3rd Saturday 12N

November 18 – What Inspired you to Cook or Bake?
 December 16 – Topic TBD

DAYTIME SCRABBLE

Leader: Libby Bergen
bergenlibby@gmail.com
2nd & 4th Wednesday 2PM

November 8 & 22
 December 13 (just one meeting in December)

EVENING SCRABBLE

Leader: Joanie Gale
joaniekgale@gmail.com
4th Monday 7PM

November 27 – meetings held at member homes
 December – contact J. Gale

NIGHT BOOKS

Leader: Rowie Wolf
rowiewolf@cox.net
2nd Monday 7pm via Zoom

November 13 – *Horse: A Novel* by Geraldine Brooks
 December 11 – Holiday Gathering

4TH MONDAY BOOK GROUP

Leader: Fran Brown
franbrown5@cox.net
4th Monday 2 – 4pm

November 27 – *Goodnight, Irene* by Luis Oberto Urrea
 December 11 – Joint Holiday luncheon with Contemporary Literature Group

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

Leader: JoAnn DeFlon
jjdeflon@gmail.com
2nd Monday 9:30AM

November 13 – *Goodnight, Irene* by Luis Oberto Urrea
 December 11 - Joint Holiday luncheon with 4th Monday Book Group

ECLECTIC READERS

Leader: Jan Cofer
jancofer@gmail.com
3rd Thursday 2pm

November 16 – *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See
 No meeting in December

WOMEN IN TRANSITION

Leader: Susan Negrete
(310) 377 - 0642
PV Liaison: Rowie Wolf
(310)373-5970
1st Wednesday 7PM – 9PM

November 1 – Giving Thanks
 December 6 – Holiday Celebration

FIRST FRIDAY TEA & CONVERSATION

Leader: Helen Vakil
helenvakil@yahoo.com
1st Friday 2 – 4pm

November 3 - If you could travel back in time, which part of your life would you go back to?

December 1 - What is one habit you would like to get rid of and one you would like to keep?

THIS GROUP IS OPEN AND WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



COFFEE WITH FRIENDS

Leaders: Fran Brown – franbrown5@cox.net
Leann Roque – leannr@cox.net
Each Wednesday 10am
 Contact Fran Brown or Leann Roque for ZOOM link

BRIDGETTES

Leader: Margery Norris
mnorris@ca.rr.com
3rd Tuesday 1PM

November 21 at Fran Wielin's home
 December 19 at Dale Richards' home

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS-NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

Space constraints or other factors may result in need for a waitlist for new members

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

Co-Leader: Jane Harris
compprin@hotmail.com

1st Thursday 2PM

November 2
 December 7

HANDICRAFTS

Leader: Joanie Gale
joaniekgale@gmail.com

2nd Saturday 3PM-5PM

November 11- meetings held at members homes

December 9 - meetings held at members homes

FUN AT THE MOVIES

Leader: Myrna Plost
mplost@verizon.net

November 30— *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*

No Meeting in December

**THIS NEW INTEREST GROUP
 WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

READERS THEATER

Leader: Cecilia Rogers
fafnyr@mac.com

November 30—dinner will be provided

December 11— Holiday Celebration



LUNCH BUNCH

Leader: Nancy Rayner
Nrayner777@gmail.com

1st Tuesday 1PM

November 7— Asaka
 Golden Cove Center
 December 5-New York Deli

WOMEN EATING LUNCH

LEISURELY (WELL)

Leader: Joanie Gale
joaniekgale@gmail.com

3rd Wednesday 1PM

November 15— Restaurant TBD
 December 20— Restaurant TBD



The First Tuesday Lunch Bunch had a delicious meal at the Seaside Palace restaurant in Torrance this October.

Each month the group travels to a different restaurant. Some of this year's venues have included the 22nd Street Landing, the Blue Water Grill, Bettolino, Think Cafe, and Utsav Indian Cuisine.

The group is headed by Nancy Rayner.

BRANCH CALENDAR November/December 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| November 03, Friday 7:-00 pm | Bingo, RSVP to get a ZOOM link |
| November 14, Tuesday 2 pm | Branch Meeting/Readers Theater Performance, Hesse Park |
| December 01, Friday 4 pm to 6 pm | Holiday Happy Hour at Joanie Gale's home |
| January 09, Tuesday 2 pm | Branch Meeting, Hesse Park |

Council Co-Chairs: Fran Brown
and Joanie Gale

Treasurer: Dale Richards and
Leann Roque

Membership Chairs:
Libby Bergen and Jane Harris

AAUW Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls
through advocacy, education, philanthropy
and research.

Editor: Eunice McConaughy
310-530-5847
eunicemc771@gmail.com

Deadline for Jan/Feb. CoastLines
articles, December 15, 2023

American Association of University Women
Palos Verdes Branch
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